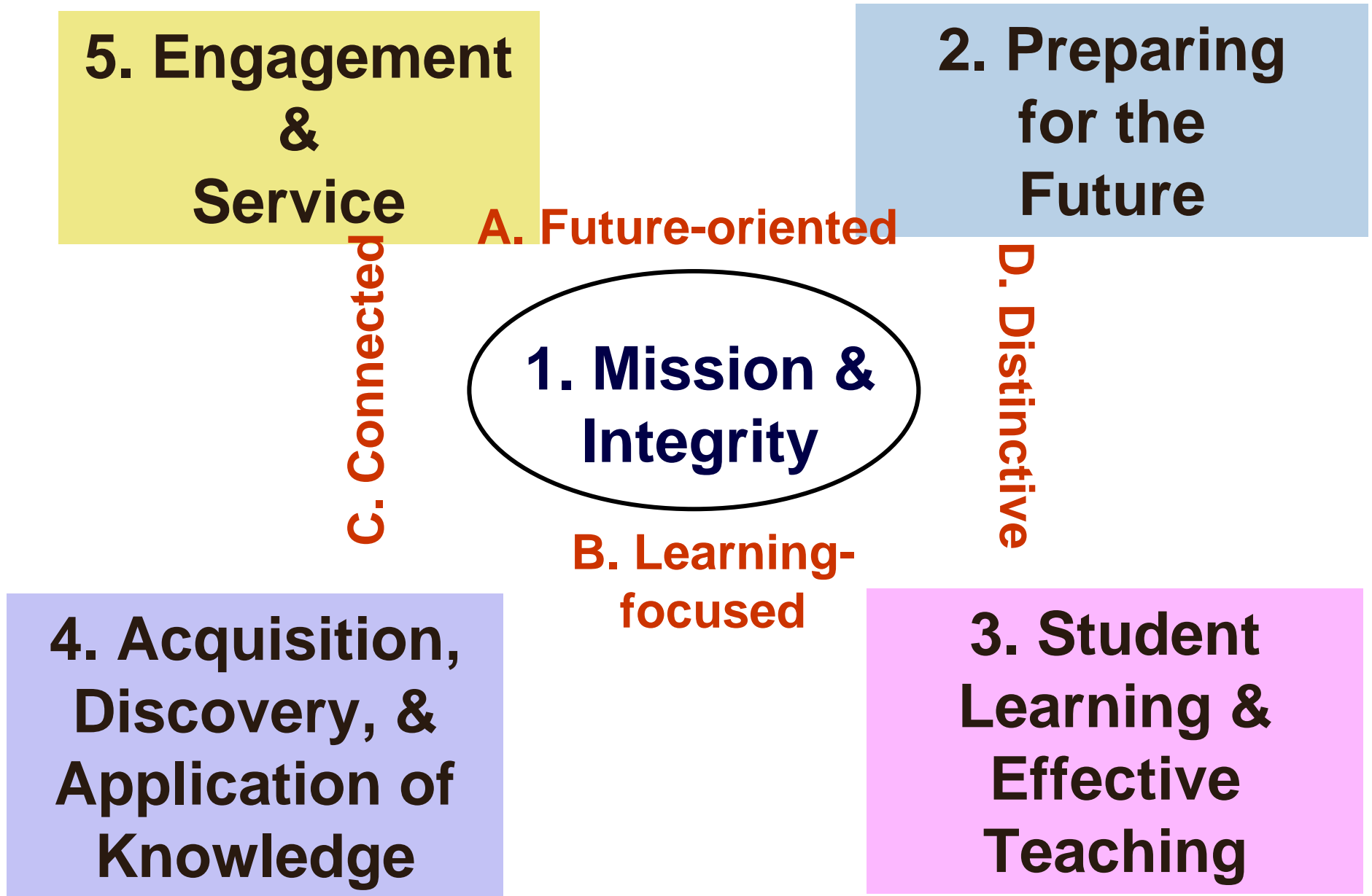


# HLC Criteria/*Themes*



# www.snu.edu/hlc

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Southern Nazarene University (SNU) Higher Learning Commission (HLC) website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.snu.edu/?s=246>. The website has a red and gold color scheme. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT SNU, SITE MAP, and CONTACT US. Below this is a banner with the SNU logo and the text "Southern Nazarene University CHARACTER | CULTURE | CHRIST". To the right of the banner are three navigation links: Future Students, Alumni & Friends, and Spiritual Life. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu for HLC with the following items: HLC Home, Self-Study Goals, Timetable, Working Groups, Updates, SNU/HLC Resources, SNU Strategic Planning, SNU Assessment, NCA 2000 Recommendations, SNU 2000 Self-Study, HLC Criteria for Accreditation, and HLC Website. Below the HLC menu is a "Quick Links" section with links to Academics, Admissions, Church Relations, Crimson Storm Athletics, Current Students, Faculty & Staff, Financial Aid, Giving, Library, and Missions. At the bottom of the sidebar is a "Page Shortcut" section with the URL [snu.edu/hlc](http://snu.edu/hlc). The main content area features a photograph of two female students walking on a campus path. Below the photo is a link to [hlc..](#). The main heading is "SNU Institutional Accreditation: NCA Higher Learning Commission Self-Study". The text below explains that every ten years, SNU undertakes a self-study in preparation for an institutional accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. It mentions that the most recent ten-year accreditation was in 2000, and that in spring 2007, the SNU Self-Study Steering Committee started the process of institutional self-study in relation to the Higher Learning Commission's five criteria for accreditation. The process will culminate in a self-study report and a Higher Learning Commission NCA accreditation site visit in the fall of 2009.

# Consultation with HLC Liaison

- Meeting with HLC Steering Committee  
(all chairs)
- Dr. Bob Appleson
- Wed., Oct. 24, 1:30 – 3 p.m., Marchant  
Hearth Room

# Evidence

- Relevant – clearly and directly related to the question of interest
- Verifiable – can be documented and replicated
- Representative – typical of the college, not an isolated case or incident
- Cumulative – corroborated or reinforced by a variety of sources

*Verbatim from Mesa Community College HLC Self-study*

# HLC Handbook, Chapter 3

- 3.1. Criteria for Accreditation
- 3.2. Criteria and Core Components
- 3.3. Cross-Cutting Themes
- 3.4. Commission Statements (Diversity, Assessment of Student Learning, General Education)

<http://www.ncahlc.org/download/Handbook03.pdf>

# Using the New Criteria

- Designed to prompt future-oriented, learning-focused conversations
- Emphasis on future-focus and results-focus
- Processes important only in context of results
- Inter-related and holistic (not just focused on individual core components)
- Purposeful overlaps
- Danger of compliance thinking

*Adapted from HLC presentation "Student Learning, Assessment & Accreditation: Criteria and Contexts"*

# Immediate tasks

- All Chairs: review HLC Handbook, Chapter 3 before Bob Appleson visit on 10-24
- Criterion Chairs: contact group members now and set meeting dates for this semester
- *Theme Chairs: group member list will be provided in spring semester*

# SNU Resources

- Master list of available resources available by 10-24-07
- Major campus resource documents will be available for Criterion group use by Jan. 2008
- Documents provided electronically and online whenever possible